

*R. J. Dicks.*

# TOCH JOURNAL

September  
1957

NEWS • VIEWS • IDEAS



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9<sup>d</sup>.

## **TOC H DIARIES**

Supplies of the 1958 edition will be available at the beginning of October. Despite increased cost of production the price remains at 4s. 0d., or fitted with pencil 4s. 6d., post free. Please include cash with order.

## **"THE TOC H PADRE"**

A new revised edition, the sixth, of this important book is now ready and copies can be obtained from Area Offices or direct from Headquarters, price 2s. 0d.

## **WYVERN BOOKS**

The series of books mentioned in Bob Knight's article (page 320) are published by the Epworth Press and can be obtained through your local bookseller, price 2s. 6d. each.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We are indebted to "The Times" for the photograph reproduced on page 281, to A. Blanchard ('Skegg') for the one on page 282, to Ken Western for that on page 284 and to E. D. Eden for the Broadways Display picture on page 292. The cartoon on page 306 is the work of R. F. Waters.

## **OURSELVES**

The Toc H Journal is published monthly, eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to all Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen copies.

THIRTY-FIFTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

# TOCH JOURNAL

September  
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NEWS • VIEWS • IDEAS



Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view, and are not necessarily those of the Movement

## Principal Contents

In and Out	278	Notes and Comment
All Hallows Restored	280	by F. G. Chesworth
Human Factors In Industry	286	Report of Discussion
With One Voice	290	by Barclay Baron
Extending Ourselves	293	by John Goss
Multum in Parvo	299	Much in Little
The Elder Brethren	301	Roll of Honour
Jamboree	304	by Alec Churcher
Lamp on the Telly	307	by Michael Perry
Far Cry, Overseas Notes	308	by Geoff Martin
Family Purse	311	by Jack Harrison
From All Parts	313	Area News
Aids to Discussion	320	by Bob Knight
Open Hustings	322	Readers' Letters

### Cover Picture :

*Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother received by the Founder Padre before the Rededication Service of All Hallows.  
(see article, page 280).*

*Photograph by courtesy of Halifax Photos Ltd., 357 Mile End Road, E.1.*

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# IN AND OUT

## Notes and Comment

### **"The Toc H Padre"**

"THE MAIN RESOLUTION MAKES IT ABUNDANTLY clear that Toc H is essentially a Spiritual Movement and has a definitely Christian basis. Its supreme aim is to illustrate anew in the simplest way the Christianity of the Gospels applied to the ordinary relationships and activities of the workaday world." This is the reason why every Toc H Branch is expected to have a padre member or, better still, two padres of different denominations. The present shortage of clergy often renders it difficult to enlist their active help and the newly-published edition of *The Toc H Padre* can be most usefully employed in providing potential Branch padres with the kind of information they are likely to need, while from its pages many lay members will also gain a clearer understanding of the aims and methods of the Movement.

### **Young Visitors**

THE STREETS OF CENTRAL LONDON DURING the week following the Jamboree were thronged with groups of boy scouts of many sizes, nationalities, colours and, presumably, creeds. Often as not they were accompanied by a British lad or else some helpful John Citizen, taking time off from his work to show them the sights. The importance of this Jamboree aftermath cannot be over-estimated, and the impressions which the young visitors carry back home with them may well have some bearing on world events of the future. Incidentally, we learn that it has been decided to transfer the Boy Scout international bureau, the world secretariat of Scouting, from Westminster to Ottawa.

### **Operation Octopus**

NEWS OF ENCOURAGING RESULTS COMES FROM Branches which have tried out the scheme for strengthening their local contacts, outlined by Keith Rea, in the February JOURNAL. In some instances, however, members have tended to fight shy of using the door-step questionnaire and here is a suggested alternative. Try condensing the questions on to a smallish card and delivering it to the householder, giving him time to complete the answers to the questions at leisure and arranging to collect it a few days later. Where a Branch aims at making an intensive survey of the locality this method is likely to produce even better results than by the members themselves completing the questionnaire on the door-step.



## Home Grown

THE PLAY BY OLIVER WILKINSON, OXFORD & Thames Valley Area Secretary, *How Can We Save Father?* was produced last month at the Royal Court Theatre, London. Its central character is the Reverend Pinion-Cleaver, a vicar, driven to madness and the point of suicide by the inadequacy of organised Christianity to the world of today, and subsequently restored to sanity and the recovery of faith through the combined efforts of his family and a psychiatrist masquerading as an early-Christian Bishop. The play's brilliant dialogue was at times strongly reminiscent of a late-night session with the Othona Community, and left at least one member of the audience both puzzled and stimulated. Here are extracts from some of the Press comments:

It is a jocular sermon, a dig in the ribs from a muscular Christian. The clacking dialogue and rather childish fun quickly fatigues.

*Manchester Guardian.*

There is no doubt that Oliver Marlow Wilkinson can write witty and telling lines.

It is a wild *melée* of village church charades.

*Evening Standard.*

It discusses a contemporary problem boldly and amusingly.

The humour was occasionally schoolboyish.

*Daily Telegraph.*

There is much wit, often paradoxical, sometimes bordering on poetry.

There is almost no plot or development.

*Reynold's News.*

There is the communicated feeling of anguish in the conviction that the world needs Christ and the Gospel.

A project of theatrical engineering which is both daring and daft.

*The Observer.*

It has an exasperating if inoffensive way of interlarding profundities with strained schoolboyish jokes and puns.

*Daily Mail.*

## Jubilant Feet

CROSBY BRANCH, IN THE NORTH WESTERN Area, made the discovery that many local old age pensioners remained housebound because of corns, bunions and other foot troubles. Now, they have organised a chiropody service at the local welfare clinic, and engaged two professional chiropodists who are in attendance on one afternoon each week. Special chairs and the necessary instruments have been given by generous friends. Each patient pays half-a-crown for treatment though in cases of dire need no charge is made. The British Red Cross Society provides two volunteer nurses weekly, and a lady from the Soroptimists has undertaken the paper work and collects the cash. The scheme is meeting a real need.

# ALL HALLOWS RESTORED

by F. G. CHESWORTH

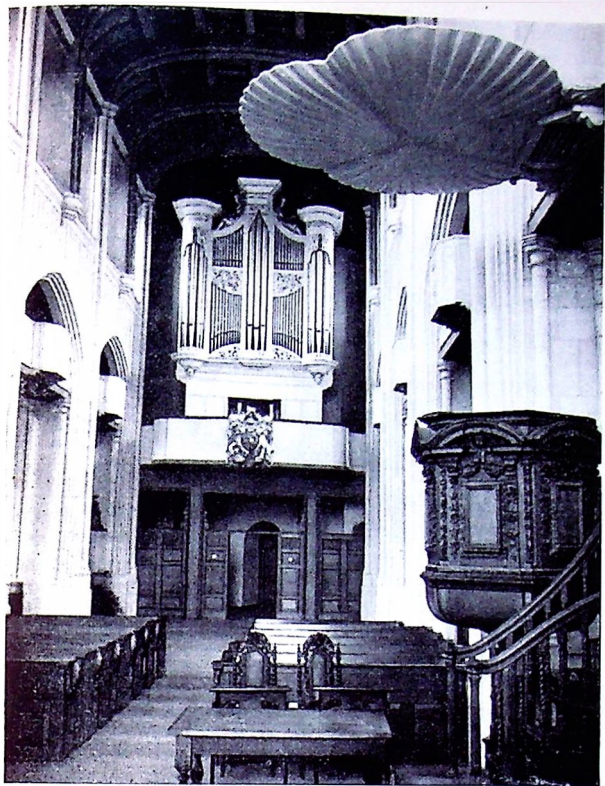
When the bombs rained down on the City of London during World War II, few of its forty-six churches escaped damage or destruction. Amongst those that suffered was All Hallows By-the-Tower, first on December 8-9, 1940, when it was struck by a high-explosive bomb and again on December 29-30 by incendiaries which completed its destruction. On July 19, 1948, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, now the Queen Mother, laid the foundation of a new north aisle and almost exactly nine years later attended the Rededication Service.

ON NORMAL WORKING-DAYS, the streets of the City of London take on a deserted look soon after five-thirty, but this was not the case on the late afternoon of Tuesday, July 23, when from the tube station on Tower Hill and elsewhere as mixed a throng of people as could possibly be imagined were to be seen moving purposefully in the direction of All Hallows By-the-Tower, the Guild Church of Toc H, for the Service of Rededication.

From that same tower where Samuel Pepys had once anxiously watched the advancing flames of the Great Fire, came the sound of the McConnell carillon playing melodies of much-loved hymns, while homely notices outside the church invited all-comers to share in the joyous occasion. But no parish church in the land could have held more than a fraction of those wishing to attend and while extra chairs and close compression in the pews provided for 640, arrangement had also been made to relay the Service to a second congregation, numbering more than twice as many, seated outside on the Terrace.

Seeing the church for the first time in its new glory was a memorable experience and the heartening atmosphere of lightness and vitality became even more apparent as the notes from the new organ, a memorial to Queen Mary and Samuel F. Houston of Philadelphia, soared through the building, flooding nave and aisles with triumphant music.

Drawn up outside the church waited the uniformed Guard of Honour provided by the men and women of the Royal Naval Minewatching Service of the Port of London (whose Parent Church is All Hallows), under the Command of Captain Taprell Dorling, D.S.O., R.N. (retd.); Apprentices of the British Tanker Company and the Shell Company; and the 1st City of London (Lord Mayor's Own) Scout Troop.



*The Times*

The new organ with the original Stuart Arms of 1660, and the ancient pulpit from the Church of St. Swithun, London Stone

The first of three processions, the architects and representatives of the builders, now moved to their places to be followed soon after by a second one with the mitred Bishop of London, supported by the Bishop of Thetford, the Bishop in Egypt and some thirty robed clergy. Then came the Mayor and Mayoress of Stepney, and scarcely were they seated when, from a balcony high in the south aisle, trumpeters of the Royal Horse Guards in ceremonial dress of scarlet and gold.

ALL HALLOWS RESTORED

281



sounded a fanfare to herald the arrival of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. After being greeted by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, together with representatives of All Hallows, Her Majesty was led in procession to her seat in the nave and the Service commenced with the singing of the hymn *Blessed City, Heavenly Salem* followed by a verse of the National Anthem.

### Rededication

Two short prayers, and then to the singing of Tubby's well-known words *Bless'd be the day* set to the tune of 'St. Peter', the Bishop proceeded first to the font, then to the altar of the Mariner's Chapel in the south aisle and thence to the high altar, at each place stopping to offer a dedicatory prayer.



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, with the Founder Padre on the Terrace

From the seventeenth-century pulpit, a gift from the bomb-destroyed church of St. Swithun, London Stone, John Durham, the Deputy Vicar, read the Lesson taken from St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians and after a further hymn the familiar voice of the Founder Padre led the congregation in prayer. Another hymn from Tubby's pen followed, *Out of Many into One* sung to 'Aberystwith', and then came the Bishop's sermon in the course of which Dr. Montgomery Campbell said:

The architects, builders, carpenters and workmen have done their best here. And what a delight to all our eyes it is: but yet there still rests on those who worship here a responsibility to make it worthy to be loved. That task is yours, and no other hands and hearts can do so much as by your prayers and praises, your worship and penitence, as you come here today, or whenever the hour may be, to lay yourselves at the foot of the Cross bringing blessing with you, for it is only by so doing you will make this dwelling place worthy of God.



A section of the tightly-packed congregation filling the Church

It was at All Hallows in the year 1535 that the *Te Deum* was first sung in English, and it was singularly fitting that as the Service neared its end, past and present should be linked together in this tremendous paean of Christian praise and worship. The Bishop's blessing followed and then, as one congregation streamed out into the City street, another made up of those who had listened and shared in the Service from outside flocked into church to see for themselves the handiwork that had made All Hallows once again whole.

### A Second Service

Four days later, on the afternoon of Saturday, July 27, a second Service based on the earlier one was held to enable the men and women of Toc H to offer their praise and thanksgiving for All Hallows Rededication. Many Branches from far and near were represented, while a number of overseas members were also present. The Rev. Jim Davies, Administrative Padre, led the Service and from the pulpit the Lesson was read by John Callf, the Administrator. In the course of his sermon Tubby had this to say:

In 1922 we were entrusted with old All Hallows which quietly produced many conversions and now with this 'gate beautiful' to God. These are indeed grave responsibilities. All shrines are actually

in God's sight consecrated by the conversions to which they are always necessarily humble material means. Conversions come through other people's prayers—that is—through intercessions of their friends. The Bishop came to dedicate All Hallows. You've come today to render it by your prayers a place where men and women are won outright for Jesus Christ our Lord.

Do not forget the time of desolation and of despair when all our hopes were fled. When unsparable leaders fell, and blackened ruins occupied this site. Do not forget how often we have feared where no fear was, and trembled in our hearts when our best friends and helpers then laid it . . . . How truly was the defeat we then endured, life seemed then ebbing fast. We plodded on from month to month and even year to year with scarcely any progress to report. For fifteen years this now translucent shrine had pitied men to see her in the dust.

Thus step by step the Lord has led us through, and we assemble here to render thanks for the abundant mercy He has shown and to renew that Galilean spirit which He alone can give to this great shrine and to the corporate spirit of Toc H. Truly our eyes have seen His saving grace.



“. . . a second congregation on the Terrace outside”

Finally Bishop 'Pat' Leonard, before blessing the congregation, delivered this charge:

*Go forth into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold fast that which is good; render to no man evil for evil; strengthen the faint hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men; love and serve the Lord; rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

As on the Tuesday, space inside the church could not be found for anything like all those who wished to join in the Service and a second, larger, congregation shared in its relay to the Terrace. Unfortunately, ten minutes from the start, a sudden downpour of rain occurred but very few left to seek shelter, preferring to stand fast, damp but undismayed.





The Honeysett Family of hand-bell ringers lead community singing in the south aisle

After a break for tea, the celebrations continued with varied happenings inspired and mainly led by Tubby himself. These included a visit to the monumental stone commemorating Julius Classicianus, set up by his wife Julia in the first century; a Punch and Judy show, the first to have been seen on the Hill for many a year and, later on, in the south aisle of All Hallows a session of community singing led by the Honeysett Family of hand-bell ringers. So it was that with prayer and music, laughter and great rejoicing, All Hallows, healed from war scars, came fully into its own again.

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### *All Hallows' Rebirth*

**T**his glad consideration  
Is often in my mind.  
Our Lord hath not forgotten Grace,  
Nor left off being kind.  
  
His meekness, sweetness, glory, light,  
Came strongly to my aid.  
He bade me breast the rising storm,  
As He did, unafraid.  
  
This jeopardy came home to me,  
Beside the Tower and Thames.  
Now free from fear, I sound "all clear",  
A Phoenix from the flames.

P. B. CLAYTON.

# Human Factors in Industry

The text of Mr. George Goyder's address on "Human Factors in Industry" given to the Central Council of Toc H has already been printed in a supplement to the July issue of the Journal. We are now glad to give an account of some of the points raised and answered in the Open Session which followed.

JOHN DAVIES (*Central Exec.*), in opening the discussion, said that the task before us was to consider ways of taking stock, and trying to set a course which could be followed not only in the Central Executive and Central Council but in the Branches. Our aim must be the building up of opinion and facilitating the building up of a new spirit in industry. We knew what fellowship was, and fellowship in the factory and industrial concern was essential.

W. T. JONES (*Wales*) spoke of conditions in a coal-mining area: things had got worse in the last thirty years with the coming of large firms and combines. The small firm had been run on much more personal lines and nationalisation had not improved matters.

CHARLES SCHOFIELD (*Central Exec.*) said that smaller firms still had the personal element. Charge-hands and foremen were valuable people: the old type gained respect from their work-mates, which was a counter-effect to the trade-union shop-steward. They were an immense power for good or ill.

W. T. GILL (*Notts & Derby*) spoke of the importance of backing up the intermediate strata in a factory—the foremen—as through them could be found out the trouble-spots causing discontent.

STAN BERWICK (*Hon. Treasurer*) raised two questions—one on usury and another on what hope there was of God's Law being accepted as the standard of the country.

GEORGE GOYDER: "Quite a lot of hope. I don't think men will lightly forego their liberties. The present drift is away from liberty into some form of authoritarianism, and that is why there is a challenge to you in Toc H. Mr. Berwick's questions would require another hour to answer, but may I suggest he should read the book I wrote six years ago—*The Future of Private Enterprise*, published by Basil Blackwell. I tried to indicate there what I thought was needed to enable

the system of industry to be based upon fellowship. The principle of fellowship is not difficult. But the application is difficult. The just reward of capital for the loan of money must depend upon the circumstances of the case; but the principle is that it should not exceed the risk and the cost of loan. Discussion on the question of the relative rewards of labour and capital leads to the conclusion that neither capital nor labour are in business for themselves. The object of production is consumption. You don't produce goods for the sake of producing. The interests of the consumer in industry should be paramount. There are in industry not two parties but four: two inside and two outside: inside, the workers and management representing capital, both serving the interests of the consumer and the community. Unless we are careful we shall have a situation in which capital and labour gang up against the community and the consumer. There are signs of this already in some industries which are near monopolies.

"Toc H ought to look outwards. You can say to workers and to managers and politicians 'come and sit down with us, and let us reason together'. No political party has begun to think out the full implications of full employment. It is a virgin field for the Christian. Because we start with fellowship and are under authority to create fellowship, we can say 'let us reason together'. We can start by saying that neither capital nor labour ought to monopolise the power. They should be working together in the service of the community and the consumer and be able to think together how to bring this about.

"As a Christian manager I can say to the worker that I know how wrong I am. The visible signs of past irresponsibility on the part of management are all around us. We have to tackle this ugliness and blight together."

RONALD SYMONS (*Chairman, Central Exec.*) asked how Branches were going to take up the challenge? Was it to be tackled individually, or were we going to get together small groups of employees and employers and try to convince them that the present system was contrary to the Gospel?

GEORGE GOYDER quoted from *Something to Bite On*. "What is basic Christianity? Toc H wants to undergird society by reading the Bible and by studying it. Ten years ago I came to the conclusion from my Bible that something was wrong with the system. I think this is it. The share-



holders, under our company law, are supposed to be the owners of the undertaking. I said to myself, by God's law, they are not. In my book I tried to show what seemed to me the implications of applying God's Law to modern industry.

"You cannot own a Company as you own a house or garden. The workers intuitively know there is something phoney in a company controlled by shareholders—the man who invests in the company and his heirs continue to draw a dividend perpetually whereas the man who works for the company is paid only so long as he continues to work for it. The Biblical principle of giving the land back to the tillers after fifty years should apply in industry. We should give the firm ten years to get on its feet, and after that amortise share capital at 1 per cent per annum. Managers should not be the agents only of the shareholders; they must be free to act responsibly towards the community and workers. Unfortunately it is contrary to the interests of both political parties to change the present system. The Labour Party is controlled by the Trade Union Movement, which is strong outside the company and does not want to come into the company as they fear this would divide the workers' loyalty. But the word Company comes from the Latin 'cum panis', which means bread-sharing and to share bread is to acknowledge a common loyalty to the place of work. The Conservative party is dominated by the conception of the right of finance to control the destiny of industry. We must go out to members of Trade Unions as individuals and get them to sit round a table with us.

"We have to work with the two parties and bring them to a closer understanding of the true law of industry. We have to speak of the law of God because there is no other authority of which we can speak. God intended men to live in fellowship and has laid down the principles of fellowship. By our failure to be Christian and accept His law we have failed to give that lead to our nation which we ought to have given. Sunday work is one obvious breach of God's law."

T. ROMANIS (*Marches*) thought that every person should contact those with whom they were in touch—manager to manager and worker to worker. We needed to widen the field of recruitment and get more mixture within our Branches.

MISS P. WOLFE (*W.A. Staff*) asked how the Trade Unions would fit into the new system.

GEORGE GOYDER replied that the Trade Unions would continue to have just as important a function as today. The workers will need to have Trades' Unions behind them as things will not happen overnight. The Trade Unions' function will be to see to it that the workers are sure of minimum conditions while they work together with management to improve conditions above the minimum. The new system cannot be brought in without the workers' and the Trade Unions' co-operation. I see a big future for the Trade Unions in working out this process. The difficulty is that none of us likes giving up power. It may be that change can come only as a result of common suffering, shared by the whole nation; but come it must!

W. E. PALMER (*Central Exec.*) said that the speaker had mentioned other countries, notably the new situation arising from the European Free Trade Area, and he would like him to stress the urgency of this problem.

GEORGE GOYDER: "I don't think that to say to the worker that unless you do this or that something terrible is going to happen, will cut any ice as the workers think it is an old story they have heard too often before. Urgency is not the note on which to take up the argument. In *The Uses of Literacy* Richard Hoggart says the worker is becoming cynical because there is a continuous presentation of slanted truth in our popular newspapers and the worker is getting to the stage of not believing anybody. We are up against a collective attitude, a psychology, which is the result of a century or more of indifference and struggle. Men are not to be thought of only as individuals, because men at work are members of a body, with a collective psychology which is the product of a century of industrial strife. We are up against a psychology of work which is different from that of any one individual. We have to find how to engage men's minds positively and to win the emotional assent of the workers. We have to discover the way to men's hearts, not by fear, but by an appeal based on belief and recognition that we have all got ourselves into a state that is unsatisfactory and are all challenged equally to find the way out, whether as managers, shop stewards, or workers. This is our common problem and common task, to be solved with Christ's help, and in faith that fellowship between men at work is God's will."

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NOTE: Copies of Mr. Goyder's address "Human Factors in Industry" published in the July issue can be obtained from Toc H Publications Department, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1. Price 6d. each. (postage 2d.).



## WITH ONE VOICE

In response to many requests received from listeners, here is the text of the Toc H Appeal made by Barclay Baron in the B.B.C. Home Service Programme on Sunday, July 28th.

**S**UPPOSING YOU WERE OLD and house-bound, and a younger man came every week for a chat, ready perhaps to give you a show with a film projector, to take you in his car to church or to a party at Christmas. Supposing you were a lad living in a very dull street, and someone started a Scout troop or opened a club you could join, with a week's camp in summer to look forward to. Supposing you were a child with no father—or a blind or spastic child—and an 'uncle' came on the scene to take you out and remember your birthday and even—why not?—to cut your hair.

Supposing you were friendless in hospital—or in prison or in Borstal—and a friend not only came regularly to keep you in touch with the outside world but to remain your friend when you were in circulation again. Supposing you were a youngster going to a job in a city far from your home and someone was waiting to welcome you into the family life of a cheerful hostel.

Supposing . . . but there is no need to suppose. These human situations and a hundred others are the daily opportunity for Toc H to act the good neighbour, and I know how constantly and joyfully but without advertisement its members rise to the occasion. For since I became a member of it in 1917—that's just forty years ago—in its first war-time phase in Flanders, I have seen it at work, not only in the thousand Branches we have in Great Britain but in other places as far apart as Uganda and Cape-town and Valparaiso.

It is work which may cost an hour or two of a member's leisure every week or the service of a lifetime—as in the case of the Toc H volunteers in the leper colonies of Nigeria or those who run our T.B. settlement in Natal. And it is work in which women are obviously indispensable: the Toc H Women's Association, alongside the menfolk, are an integral part of our Movement.

I want to make it plain that this is not voluntary social service for any self-satisfaction, but the direct expression of a 'family' spirit among men and women of all ages, classes, denominations and opinions which is outspokenly Christian.



Well, there is a glimpse of the kind of work Toc H undertakes round the year and round the world. I wish I could paint you a picture of the spirit of friendship in which this work is done, but a spirit cannot be captured in words, it has to be experienced. So get in touch, if you will, with one of our Branches: your understanding will help us.

But this work also costs money. Our members contribute what they can afford—and often more—to our central fund to maintain and extend Toc H, but—supposing Toc H had enough money! We could build new hostels for men, especially one in Bristol—my own city—to replace the house we had to close last year. We could keep open our Services Clubs in Germany instead of having to shut down three or four of them this year, and we could do much more that calls for the spirit of Toc H in life today.

Will you send me what you can to enable Toc H to do these things and a thousand others. Please send it to Barclay Baron, Forty Seven, Francis Street, London, S.W.1. I will repeat that—Barclay—B.A.R.C.L.A.Y—Baron—B.A.R.O.N—Forty Seven—Four Seven—Francis—F.R.A.N.C.I.S—Street—London, South West One. And thank you for listening.

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## THANKS-GIVING

*Some letters received in response to the above by "Barkis" contained thankful tributes to the personal work of members.*

From "a club for elderly ladies, several of whom are invalids" in East Anglia: "In gratitude for the great kindness of your workers in showing us a film show, as I could not possibly get out to the pictures." From the Sister in charge of a Church Army Home in the West Country: "The Toc H men are a great help to us; we so appreciate their Christian fellowship with so many people they meet along life's way." From Northamptonshire: "But a small return for what I have received during my time in hospital and the annual outings since." An old people's home had a collection after the broadcast "in appreciation of their only chances of seeing the Yorkshire Dales by the kindness of a Women's Branch". A retired nurse has two members of a new joint group in Berkshire taking her out in a bath chair: "I am not allowed to walk and they are so kind and helpful."

"Dear Mr. Baron, We thought your appeal last night was very good. As I am only ten and too young for membership,

may I become a Builder?" (He has!) A young Nigerian student "only five weeks old in a Mark and very impressed by the work of the family".

"Remembering the happy days I had in Mark VI and Mark VII." "In remembrance of much help received from Tubby at Poperinge in September, 1917." "Towards the Toc H movement which I admire: I came into contact with some of its members in the R.A.F. in the Canal Zone and know of its work quietly done."

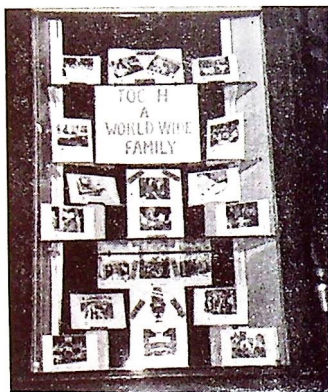
And many more of the same kind in thanksgiving for the personal efforts of members. True dividends for those who invest in the Toc H spirit. Which reminds us of an Area Secretary in the North who wrote: "One lady said to me that she didn't know before hearing the appeal that Toc H did this kind of work. She thought it was one of those drinking organisations and couldn't understand how I was on the staff".

Finally, a tribute to "Barkis", and to Ken Rogers, Elizabeth Ould and others who worked hard, as well as many of the Branches, for making the appeal effective and many new friends for Toc H.

### Publicity

A most important contribution towards the success of the appeal was the very large number of newspapers who gave it considerable mention in their news columns.

With the help of sets of pictures showing various Toc H activities, which were made available to Branches, many handymen succeeded in catching the public eye through well - contrived displays in public libraries, cinema foyers and shop windows, while the



An effective display in a tobacconist's window, arranged by Broadways (Wellingborough) Branch

wide distribution of stickers, book-markers and reminder postcards all played their part in helping members to speak "with one voice".

# EXTENDING OURSELVES

by JOHN GOSS

The text of an address given when moving the resolution  
on Extension at this year's Central Council Meeting.

FOR SOME TIME now we have all been concerned with the problem of extension. We have discussed it in our units, at District Teams, and at Training Week-ends, we have argued about new methods—and even tried some of them out, with varying degrees of success or failure. Some of you here may even hope that a resolution about extension at the Central Council is going to solve the problem for you; that it will supply all the answers and possibly give you a blueprint on how to double your membership. Nothing could be further from the truth!

What do we mean by extension? Do we wish to perpetuate a movement? Or is our concern just to increase the membership of an organisation? I believe we shall never get to grips with the problem until we have searched our hearts in trying to answer these two questions. And to do that we have to get to the heart of the matter; to re-discover for ourselves just why we believe Toc H to be a movement of the spirit, and why, if it is a movement, it must always seek to be relevant to our day and age.

## *Stock excuse*

We are all familiar with the problem unit. We all know of weak Branches which refuse to die. They fail to recognise that they may have outlived their particular purpose, they say they cannot extend, and they just stagnate. And when we try to talk to them about extension the stock excuse for doing nothing is that the world is so different from what it was thirty years ago. The adventure and excitement have gone; opportunities for service have disappeared; guest nights are not what they were. They wallow in nostalgia and sigh for the "good old days". They still think in terms of Toc H as a meeting.

Why is this? In doing all the superficial things which have left such pleasant memories, did they ever, I wonder, try to understand what was behind it all? Did they, perhaps, grow up on the borrowed experience of a few men? Did it never

become real in their own lives? And for "they", should we also read "we"?

Some ten years ago Professor Dodd wrote: "The problem of history has become the most urgent problem of our time. We stand at the end of an era. How are our lives to be directed so that the new shape of things to come may be a worth while enterprise of the spirit of man and not a drift or collapse?" This resolution asks you to face that kind of challenge.

In the march of history since 1922 have all the challenges then made, and accepted in the Main Resolution, been met and overcome? Surely not. They may have changed in externals but fundamentally they are much the same. The coming of the Welfare State may have removed some of the obvious opportunities for service—of the helping-lame-dogs-over-stiles sort of job—of perhaps some of the superficialities of Toc H service by which men quieted their conscience to avoid getting down to fundamentals—but it has not diminished the contribution Toc H can make to the challenge of our time.

### *Meaning of fellowship*

Do you remember when we were very young? Impatient and eager to be doing, disgusted with the cant and humbug of the twenties, we were impatient young men. Were we any different from the Angry Young Men of today? Not all of us had our roots in a Christian background. We were forever asking, "Why?" And thank God there were men like Tubby, and Barkis, and Alec Paterson who were prepared to answer our questions. Men with a genius for friendship; men sensitive to the disquiet and unease within us; men who taught us the true meaning of fellowship both with one another and with God. What have we done with the experience they passed on to us? Have we no answer for the young men of our own time?

If we believe in this thing we must be prepared to challenge the values implicit in our time by the real values we have discovered in a life of Christian community. Have we? Or is the all too evident lack of fellowship in the world at large simply a reflection of the shallowness of our own Christian fellowship?—As John Callf said once "Congregations consist of people who may be known to God—but alas! they are often not particularly well known to each other." To quote the *New Forum*:



"Within the general limitations which the processes of history have put upon us, man must re-discover and accept responsibility as a human person, and this he can only do by discovering for himself that real life rests in community. Of himself he cannot make the discovery—nor by becoming part of an impersonal or absolute authority is he aware of new life. That is only evasion of responsibility. He must discover it in full personal commitment to men in the world—and redeem both himself and the collective at the same time."

In short, life is commitment. The detail of how and why you are committed you must work out for yourselves. The problems involved in translating the Christian ethic in terms of community are in many ways the very stuff of *Toc H*. And we know from much that has been said this week-end that they are as demanding and challenging as they were thirty-five years ago.

### *Today's problems*

The colour problem, the special problems of race in South Africa, the breach in industrial relations, slackening standards in home life, the diminishing sense of responsibility of the individual, the press, the changing values in education in a technological age—and many more. There is the sheer apathy today in the face of any of these problems when they conflict with self-interest. We know of the problem of the divisions in Christendom itself; of the dwindling significance of the craftsman and his frustration in the impersonality first of the production belt and now of automation. There are problems of moral uncertainty, the clash between natural law and common law; the frustration which in a world of restrictions makes for so many men the only important commandment—"Thou shalt not get found out". And we presume to wonder why angry young men seem to lack stability and a sense of direction, when we have so often presented them with a gospel of expediency based on the weakness of our own insincerity.

We used to kid ourselves that we were a frontier movement—Are we still? Or have we retreated within the bastion of our so nice and smug middle-aged respectability and forgotten that the no-man's land is still there?

In all these problems if the truth is to prevail we must seek the mind of Christ and we must do it in all humility—participating in the lives of the others however unlovely and unloving they may be. Only thus can we ever begin to make them understand. As Iain Fraser has said in another context "Communication is participation".

People generally are shy and shut in. There is a loneliness of the spirit and they are so fearful of giving themselves away. And lonely people quickly become forgotten people. And the materialism of the Welfare State cannot weld them into the fabric of the whole. You cannot practise love and compassion by filling in a form—you cannot do good *to* them. You can only get beside them in the community and love them into the Kingdom of God.

### *Convinced men*

And Toc H has shown that it can be done over and over again. Much that is going on today in the experiments of Christian communication stems from the Toc H method. It is being shown over and over again that the method still works when it is practised by *convinced men*.

We must be convinced that no love between human beings reaches its fullest expression except in love of God. Otherwise we get our relationships wrong. Loving widely and witnessing humbly mean nothing unless those relationships are shot through with the sense of the eternal. Only then are we able to see our neighbours and our relations with them as they really are. Neither sentimentally ignoring their defects and pretending their sins are not sinful, nor in a spirit of exploitation, doing good to them, presuming to judge and to condemn. All men and women do not alike possess the sort of mystic apprehension which admits them to the heart of the eternal realities. But it is very sure that all men and women have a capacity for response to friendship; that they are approachable when the eternal takes human form. And that has been demonstrated by the Holy Spirit working itself out in the lives of ordinary people, not just in Toc H, but down the ages.

And as with individuals, so too with the group. I know, and I am sure you know, that there are certain occasions in our lives when half-a-dozen of us, perhaps more, knit together in the common love of God and active in the common service of His good news, find ourselves organically united, co-operating as members of a body, caught up in a single life and energized by a single spirit. We respond to each other with the spontaneity and inevitability of the members of a living organism. And when that happens there is manifested a dynamic energy which astounds ourselves and others and there is a potential of almost limitless power.

When men are released from the immense wastage given to affectation and pose, to controversy, jealousy and suspicion, to their own individual ambitions and fears, when they cease to care what happens to themselves because they care solely for the loyalty which unites them; when they cease to think about their own wisdom and cleverness—or weakness and inefficiency; when in fact they witness humbly because a common task draws out from them every ounce of capacity they can give, then astounding results do in fact follow. They can follow today just as surely as they have done in the past in the short history of Toc H, and as they did at Pentecost nearly two thousand years ago when that other small group, out of humiliation and abasement and failure, was at last set free from self. We know that the method works. We believe that we can build bravely. But we must be convinced of our purpose so that we know what we are trying to build.

And I believe it is time that we once more as the leaders of the Movement solemnly affirmed our resolve that the surest way to extension is to get back to first principles and charge ourselves with the task of bringing this purpose home to our members.

\* \* \*

John Goss agreed at short notice to provide the following notes and questions to accompany his talk for the use of Branches. "You will see" he writes, "that the talk breaks fairly easily into three sections and each poses its own questions. I would rather you found these for yourselves and work them out your own way; but if you begin with those below they might help you to ask others."

### I. Clearing the Ground.

1. Do we wish to perpetuate a movement?
2. Are we interested only in increasing the membership of our organisation? *no*
3. Do we really believe that Toc H is a "movement of the spirit"? *yes*
4. Do you agree that Toc H must always seek to be relevant to our day and age? *yes*
5. I have criticised by implication the Branch which still thinks in terms of Toc H as a meeting. Is such criticism valid? *yes*
6. To what extent has Toc H been for us a "borrowed experience"? *for yes but not generally*

### II. Things to Come.

"How are our lives to be directed so that the new shape of things to come may be a worth-while enterprise of the spirit of man and not a drift or collapse?"

1. If Toc H had come into being during the Second World War instead of during the First, and a Main Resolution had been drafted

say in 1949, or even today, in what ways might it have been different from the original version?

2. Can you analyse your attitude to life when you joined Toc H? What attracted you to it and what kept you in it? In the light of that analysis can you answer the two questions at the end of the paragraph about when we were very young? (page 294).

3. Is our Christian fellowship shallow? If we have discovered any real values in Toc H, to what extent have we failed to transmit them to others?

4. Do you believe that the development of individual personality leads inevitably to the idea that "life is commitment"?

5. The paragraph on the problems of today (page 295) is by no means exhaustive and to deal with it effectively would need another article. There is scope for a winter's programme on almost any one of these topics—we need information, analysis, discussion and application—but nothing creative will emerge unless we are prepared to bring the tensions which exist out into the open. Do we dare to let any of these problems really come to life in our own units?—particularly those dealing with moral uncertainty and social problems? Diversity of background and frankness of outlook were once the charm of Toc H. Have we lost that charm in middle age? *No*

6. Are we still a frontier movement? In the past many men found Christ through Toc H. Why do we now so often tend to attract those already converted? *perhaps*

N.B.—Most *New Forum* editorials will be found helpful in facing this section; so also are "Something to Bite On", Professor Bowen's "Three R's" and George Goyder's talk and the questions on it. May I also recommend "What is Happening to Us?", a reprint of seven talks by Canon V. A. Dernant, published by the Dacre Press?

### III. Communication is Participation.

1. Just as the complexity of modern life leads to a feeling of apathy and a sense of helplessness, so too I believe that the growing dependence on an impersonal "They" together with the breakdown of family life makes for loneliness. Can you see any part for Toc H to play in this, particularly in so far as the Toc H method reflects "a genius for friendship"? *Yes*

2. Do you know anything about modern experiments in Christian communication? Can you get somebody to talk to you about the "House Church" and recent developments in the use of chaplains in industry? *Eight men*

3. "No love between human beings reaches its fullest expression except in love of God." These three paragraphs (pages 296-7) sum up all that I personally have learned from Toc H. When I wrote them it was not my intention that they should appear in print. The first, dealing with individual relationships, may be useful as a basis for self-examination. The second and third stem from it and attempt to express how the spirit created by an organic fellowship can be greater than the sum of its component parts. Difficult as it is to overcome the individual limitations I have listed, we have got to face the fact that they exist; and I believe most of our failures stem from them. These three paragraphs are a personal, if inadequate, interpretation of what the so-called Toc H spirit means to me. Others might like to try a similar exercise.



# MULTUM || MUCH IN PARVO || IN LITTLE

✠ R. G. (BOB) SIMMONS has arrived in Singapore and taken over the Wardenship of Talbot House there from E. R. (BOB) PRESTON, who will be returning to England and later succeeding ANGUS JOHNSTON as Services Commissioner in Germany.

✠ THE HON. TREASURER thanks all those who helped to make known and all those who responded to the appeal for Toc H broadcast by BARCLAY BARON on July 28. Up to the time of going to press the total received in sums small and large, mostly from new friends, amounted to close on £2,500.

✠ INTERESTED MEMBERS are invited to obtain particulars of the following events from the Area Secretary, Padre or H.A.C. concerned :

September 28-29: Northern Area Rally, Durham.

October 5-6: South-Western Conference, Westward Ho!

October 5-6: East Anglian Week-end, Overstrand.

October 26: Beds. and Herts. Get-together, Biggleswade.

October 26-27: Lincolnshire Rally, Skegness.

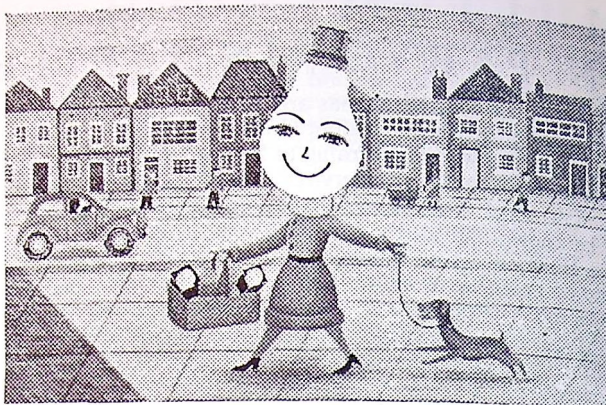
November 2-3: Yorkshire Conference, Bridlington.

✠ THE BIRTHDAY FESTIVAL OF TOC H will be held in London on Saturday, December 7. In the morning and early afternoon the programme will centre on All Hallows and Tower Hill. The Services will be held in Westminster Abbey and Westminster Chapel, and the Festival will end in the evening at the Royal Albert Hall.

✠ Branches and District Teams attending the BIRTHDAY FESTIVAL from a distance are advised to plan their journeys soon, securing the benefits of the cheapest day return fares for themselves and their friends, so as to arrive by 11 a.m., or by 2 p.m. at the latest, and to depart about 10 p.m. Members living too far away to return that night are advised to ask their friends in London to reserve beds for them.

✠ THE WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT will start in Kampala, Uganda, and will be observed in Africa, Europe and America on Wednesday, December 11, and in New Zealand, Australia and Asia on December 12, at each place in turn at 9 p.m. by local time.

✠ The Annual Meeting of the CENTRAL COUNCIL will be held in London on April 18-20, 1958.



*...butter and cheese, some meat,  
two stamps ... and I haven't  
forgotten my Osram lamps!*

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# The Elder Brethren

*At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them*

ABBOTT.—On May 13, JOHN HOLMES ABBOTT, aged 72, a member of St. Annes-on-Sea Branch. Elected 19.11.'26.

ABBOTT.—On June 10, OWEN E. ABBOTT, aged 61, a member of Harpenden Branch. Elected 27.10.'29.

ALLSWORTH.—On May 20, HERBERT PRESTON ALLSWORTH, aged 68, a member of Winton Branch. Elected 1.1.'51.

BARCHAM.—On July 10, CHARLES ALFRED BARCHAM, aged 73, a member of Marlborough Branch. Elected 10.12.'31.

BLASSON.—On June 15, CYRIL AUGUSTINE BLASSON, aged 80, a member of Billingsborough Branch. Elected 1.2.'52.

CLARK.—On May 2, DOUGLAS EDWARD CLARK, aged 27, a member of Chalfonts Branch. Elected 2.11.'56.

CORNES.—On June 6, JOSEPH CORNES, aged 51, a member of Shavington Branch. Elected 12.1.'56.

COTTERELL.—On May 2, JOHN CYRIL LESLIE COTTERELL, aged 43, a member of Codsall No. 2. Branch. Elected 28.2.'47.

CROSS.—On June 15, THOMAS JAMES CROSS, aged 77, a member of Yiewsley & West Drayton Branch. Elected 14.9.'36.

CUTTS.—On May 2, ROBERT CUTTS, aged 74, a member of Jacksdale Branch. Elected 1.8.'47.

DENNIS.—On June 16, WILLIAM PAULL DENNIS, aged 70, a member of Troon Branch. Elected 30.5.'47.

DENTON.—On June 18, SYDNEY FREDERICK DENTON, aged 51, a member of Northampton Branch. Elected 5.10.'54.

EVERSON.—On July 15, JOHN G. EVERSON, aged 67, a member of Norwood Branch and secretary S.London General Members Branch. Elected 28.3.'47.

HAGGEN.—Suddenly on June 17, GEOFFREY LOOSEMORE HAGGEN, a founder member of Leeds Branch. Elected 1.5.'24.

HARRIS.—On June 14, GEORGE HARRIS, aged 63, a member of Kenilworth Branch. Elected 9.10.'56.

HIGNETT.—On July 13, FREDERICK H. HIGNETT, aged 77, a member of Oswestry Branch. Elected 15.10.'31.

HILLIER.—On June 14, DONALD GEORGE HILLIER, aged 55, a member of Torridge Branch. Elected 17.2.'48.

INGLEBY.—On June 11, BERNARD INGLEBY, aged 77, a member of Sale Branch. Elected 1.6.'24.

JONES.—On June 21, the Rev. J. ALWYN JONES, a member of Cleckheaton Branch. Elected 16.4.'35.

JORDAN.—On May 27, VICTOR JORDAN, aged 42, a member of Ashby-de-la-Zouch Branch. Elected 19.9.'47.

KELLY.—On June 17, FREDERICK CECIL KELLY, aged 65, a member of Henleaze Branch. Elected 4.5.'50.

KING.—On June 25, WILLIAM HERBERT KING, ("Kingo"), aged 75, a member of Kent Area General Members Branch. Elected 14.1.'26.

LLOYD.—On June 2, JOHN LLOYD, aged 60, a member of Acton & Garden Village Branch. Elected 19.4.'57.



MATHEW.—On June 9, HERBERT JAMES MATHEW, aged 70, a member of Cheriton Branch. Elected 1929.

NETTLE.—On April 13, WILLIAM JOHN NETTLE, ('Lofty'), aged 71, a member of Hampden Park Branch. Elected 30.3.'50

PURSEY.—On July 4, ALEXANDER PURSEY, aged 95, a member of Walton Branch. Elected 7.2.'52.

ROSS.—On May 27, the Rev. HECTOR ROSS, aged 69, a member of Hamilton Branch. Elected 27.10.'47.

SAINTY.—On July 3, FREDERICK MARTIN SAINTY, aged 86, a member of Callington Branch. Elected 2.12.'47.

SAMS.—On June 9, Sir HUBERT ARTHUR SAMS, C.I.E., aged 82, at Tunbridge Wells, a member in India, 1926-31, and Cambridge, 1931-44. Elected 11.5.'26.

SIMPSON.—On May 2, WILL SIMPSON, aged 89, a member of Ashby-de-la-Zouch Branch. Elected 14.12.'39.

SNELL.—On June 2, FREDERICK HENRY SNELL, aged 72, a member of Pickhurst Green Branch. Elected 28.1.'28.

STEPHENS.—On June 21, PERCY STEPHENS, aged 55, a member of Helston Branch. Elected 21.10.'38.

WARNER.—On June 5, JOHN DAVID WARNER, aged 62, a member of Harborne Branch. Elected 4.11.'53.

WILLIAMS.—On February 8, the Rev. HECTOR CLARANCE WILLIAMS, aged 55, a member of Madras Branch. Elected 18.2.'55.

WILSON.—On May 28, after 17 years in hospital DESMOND GARDINER WILSON, aged 34, a member of Charlton Branch. Elected 12.2.'48.

WRIGHT.—On May 15, REGINALD WRIGHT, aged 43, a member of Bolsover Branch. Elected 23.11.'54.

### *In Memoriam: GEOFFREY HAGGEN*

GEOFFREY LOOSEMORE HAGGEN, a Rhodes scholar who became Dean of the Faculty of Law of Leeds University, is remembered with high regard and affection by his old students, many of whom are now eminent in their profession. He is remembered no less gratefully by obscure people who knew him only as "the Toc H gentleman". For about twenty years he conducted the Poor Man's Lawyer service at Red House (Mark XIX) in East Street, Leeds, and his expert knowledge, shrewd understanding of human nature and innate sympathy for ordinary people in trouble helped to smooth the way for thousands who sought advice.

To Geoff this was a Toc H job, and every Thursday evening—however busy had been his professional day—was sacred to it. I remember sitting with him one evening when he had been to the Rhodes Scholars' dinner the night before and had driven back from London to be in his place in Red House annexe. Although Red House was closed as a hostel in 1939 Geoff kept his Thursday sessions week after week throughout



the war and afterwards, until illness last year broke the sequence. He had taken the lead in raising money to buy Red House for Toc H in 1927, and to him it remained the heart of Toc H in Leeds.

A few yards further along East Street stands Cavalier House, a block of flats that Geoff brought into being. When Leeds slum areas were cleared wholesale and many tenants were moved to the outskirts of the city, Geoff pioneered the Leeds Housing Trust to provide new homes in the old neighbourhood. His also was the inspiration and direction of a more recent achievement by the Trust in providing a large block of flats for single women in a Leeds suburb. His work as Chairman of the Trust took up a great deal of time and energy but this, again, was just "a Toc H job" to him. Little wonder that his example and understanding lay behind everything worthwhile that Leeds Branch has undertaken.

He graduated at Toronto University in 1913, then came to Oxford, became a student at the Inner Temple, and won the Cobden Prize. In the 1914-18 war he served in France and Salonika, was mentioned in despatches and ended his service as captain. Two years later he moved to Leeds and his life's work. It was not all work though, for bee-keeping and Dales holidays gave him welcome relaxation.

Geoff died suddenly at home on June 17, the day before he was to have been presented with an album containing more than 200 signatures, and a cheque in recognition of nearly forty years' legal and social service in Leeds. To his widow we offer not only sympathy, but gratitude for all the time and energy that he was enabled to give in Toc H service. Others who studied law under Geoff are keeping the Poor Man's Lawyer Service going, and the spirit of "the Toc H gentleman" will still animate the consulting rooms at Red House Annexe.

G.C.H.

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# JAMBOREE

by ALEC CHURCHER

I REMEMBER a picture in *Punch* some years ago of two small urchins standing outside a magnificent super-cinema, gazing unimpressed at an array of posters advertising "The Most Tremendous Film of All Time", "A Super-Colossal Production that will live in your memory for ever", "The Greatest Spectacle of the Century", etc. Says one small boy to the other "Think it's any good, Bert?" It was, perhaps, in something of this spirit that I approached Sutton Park, scene of the 1957 World Scout Jubilee Jamboree, for as a rule I am allergic to almost anything on a mass scale (the glorification of mere size seems to me to be one of the regrettable tendencies of our age) and the thought of 34,000 boy scouts from eighty-five countries all camping together in one place was a little overwhelming.

Most, if not quite all, my misgivings were soon proved unjustified. The whole aim of the organisers was clearly to break down the vast assembly into groups of more manageable size, first into sub-camps and then into hundreds of small national camps, the larger national contingents being broken up and divided among the sub-camps. Moreover Sutton Park is no small affair, being some 2,400 acres in extent, and could contain its invading host of boys and still keep acres of wooded parkland untouched in its natural beauty. Seen from a high point near the Camp Headquarters the vast spread of tents of all shapes and sizes, gay with innumerable national flags fluttering above them, had something of the romantic air of a vast crusaders' army, assembled before the start of a crusade.

## *Real value*

To say that the Jamboree succeeded in spite of its size rather than because of it would perhaps be absurd, for the vast scale of it provided an emotional background which was an essential part of the whole conception. But its real value lay, as few would dispute, in the innumerable small groups of boys one met everywhere making exciting adventures in friendship across the barriers of nation and colour; in the informal tea-parties where laughter and the sense of partnership in a great enterprise defeated the tower of Babel; in the

countless talks and arguments and discussions between two's and three's of different nations; in the unceasing exchange of addresses and autographs and souvenirs between individual boys. The organisation was magnificent but, as is so often the case, it was the unorganised things that mattered most. "To conquer hate would end the strife of all the ages but for boys to know one another is not difficult and it is half the battle."

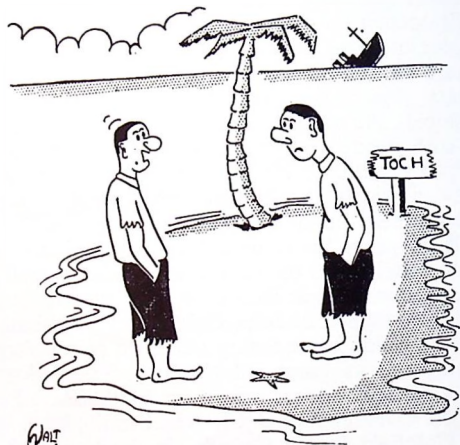
### *Common ground*

That slight paraphrase of Barkis' is not only a fair summary of that August fortnight at Sutton Coldfield but also an indication of the immense amount that Toc H and Scouting have in common. It was fitting therefore, that the occasion of the Jamboree should be taken to stage some kind of demonstration of the long-standing link between the two movements. On the initiative of Toc H in the West Midlands Area, and with Noel Cartwright devoting himself unreservedly to the task of organisation, the afternoon of Tuesday, August 6, was devoted to this purpose. A large marquee was placed at our disposal by the Jamboree authorities and here there assembled a couple of hundred Toc H Scouters, members and friends, including a number from overseas, for what was described as a "Get-Together". After some community singing which attracted a number of other welcome visitors, John Callf opened the proceedings by congratulating the Boy Scouts Association on behalf of Toc H on its Jubilee. Bishop Pat Leonard then introduced J. F. Colquhoun (Koko) of the Boy Scouts Association (Headquarters Commissioner for Relationships). As an ex-member of Mark VII he was able to speak with inside knowledge of both movements and in a talk admirably suited to the occasion expressed both pleasure at the way in which Toc H continued to help Scouting and hope that the help might be increased.

A small tea-party for some distinguished visitors followed and we were delighted to have Lord Baden-Powell with us on this occasion. Lord Rowallan was unable at the last minute to be present but John Callf and I were both able to meet him the following morning when we paid a formal visit to the Jamboree as guests of the Boy Scouts Association. After tea a special service, drawn up by the Rev. P. B. Cliff of Elmwood Congregational Church, Birmingham, was held in Sutton Coldfield Parish Church. In the course of this, the Scout Law was read by a local rover scout and the Ceremony

of Light conducted by Stephen Jack. Bishop Pat Leonard preached, and his presence, almost more than anything else, symbolised the basic unity of ideals between the two movements, for Pat has long been closely identified with both and is held in honour and affection by both. Both, he reminded us, are working expressions of the Christian ideal of the brotherhood of man founded on a firm and unshakeable belief in the fatherhood of God. Both the Scout Law and the Main Resolution of Toc H are based on the twofold Christian commandment to love God and to love one's neighbour as oneself. "Toc H and Scouting", he told us, were, in his view, "made for each other."

What next? Read again, if you will, the article "Seen Any Scouting Lately?" in the July 1956 JOURNAL (page 228). Make contact with Scouting locally: make friends with local Scout leaders, consider if there are not ways in which your Branch can help. The article I have mentioned makes many suggestions. Jamborees, like Toc H Festivals, have inspirational value but the real work goes on week by week all through the year! It is here, and not merely on great occasions, that co-operation is needed continuously and increasingly.



What time is the Guest-night?



# LAMP ON THE TELLY

by MICHAEL PERRY

TOM TOOK THE LAMP from the television set and carried it across to the invalid chair; the lights clicked abruptly off. One moment of suspense as twisted hands struggled with a matchbox, and then we all breathed freely again as we heard the familiar word 'Light'.

No ordinary Branch meeting this. Ashby-de-la-Zouch had asked to spend an evening at the Cheshire Home at Staunton Harold (JOURNAL readers may remember J. W. Jackson's article in the October '56 number). We wanted to draw the patients into our family circle. One of them was a Toc H member, so we decided to bring the mountain to Mahomet, since the Prophet of Toc H in Staunton was less mobile than the Branch.

The note of informality was struck as we came into the lounge and set the Lamp on the television set. Without changing the familiar focal point of the room, it had become transformed into a symbol of active fellowship from one of passive acceptance. The chair-ridden patient took 'Light' and received his membership card and a welcome into the Ashby Branch, then the Pilot explained the simple ceremony to those who had just shared in it for the first time. Colin Stevenson, our Area Secretary, held the attention of strangers to the Movement and gave a fresh vision to old-stagers by his stories about Toc H; and after home-going prayers we had a chance to make friends with those we had come to visit.

## *Two hints*

Two hints for further reference. First, our ideas of informality might sometimes need shaking up a little. A solemn circle asking the speaker questions can be a bit intimidating to those who have never before attended gatherings larger than their own family. Secondly, a moral drawn from a cautionary tale of Colin's about a Toc H group who were so busy decorating a room for a lonely old widow that they forgot to talk to the person for whom they were doing the job. We wanted longer time for chatting with the patients. Next time we'll know. Next time? Then we're going again? You bet!

# FAIR CRY

NOTES AND NEWS  
FROM DISTANT PARTS

Contributed by GEOFF MARTIN



Members from H.M.A.S. Melbourne, with men and women members of Kowloon, including Padre Jim Froud

## SO THIS IS BULAWAYO

WE HAVE BEEN HAVING an entertaining and very interesting forty minutes over lunch-hour sandwiches in the basement—Skegg, George Dixon, Ches and myself. We were trying out a tape recording of Toc H members in Bulawayo made while actually engaged in their assortment of activities. The recording was brought over by Derek Carter and Jim Bowman a week or two ago and given to Ches for whatever use it can be put to over here. It is really very good indeed, and convincing in its homeliness; the sort of thing which any active, imaginative Branch could produce. You don't need to know the people concerned to experience a warm understanding and interest in the goings-on in Bulawayo, you only need to know intimately the daily life of any typical Branch. The hosteller brought to the microphone who found himself tongue-tied; the scene at the station where members meet new migrants on the Cape Train every Saturday night, only to select for recording purposes a night when nothing much was happening; the visits to the orphanage for coloured children—their squeaks of delight at the cartoons being shown by the film unit, their spontaneous songs more cheerful than musical, their Christmas party; the mending of a multitude of toys in preparation for the party;

a sweet-packing orgy with the Women's Section. It is all there, but it is happening in Bulawayo instead of, say, Cefn Coed or Oamaru. Derek Carter *compères* it all with almost B.B.C. nonchalance and ease; you will find below his account of the "Migrant Job" which Bulawayo has initiated.

Anyhow, the recording is at Headquarters and can be sent on loan to any U.K. unit which can borrow a recorder and is planning an evening with an overseas flavour. If you want to borrow it send a card to me at 'Forty-Seven'.

### MEETING PEOPLE

"It's fun meeting people, especially people you send us from the other side of the world" writes Pat Jaques, Hon. Dominion Secretary of Toc H, New Zealand, and he goes on to say: "We get letters from perhaps the Jobmaster of the Branch at Much-Binding-in-the-Marsh, that one of their members, Bill Jones, is sailing for New Zealand in the *Rangitiki* on such and such a date. We watch the shipping notices for the expected date of arrival, and the first port of call; usually either Wellington or Auckland. Not knowing what Bill Jones looks like, and his not knowing what we look like is the first difficulty. If we know that he is coming out 'assisted passage' under the N.Z. Government Immigration Scheme, we drop a note through the Labour Department. This will be with his file taken out by the pilot boat, telling him where to get in touch with us. The Salvation Army have been kind to us; they meet all overseas passenger ships, and get a call put over the public address system for Bill. Bill responds to this, but does not expect to see a Salvation Army Brigadier!

"Sam Harper of Putney Branch arrived some while ago, and one of us spent from 9.30 a.m., when the ship tied up, until 2 p.m., meekly waiting in the Customs shed under the letter H, asking every male if he were Sam Harper. None of us are able to absent ourselves from business for so long, but fortunately it was a public holiday. Branch Secretaries please note (a) send full details of your 'Bill Jones', (b) say if he is sailing under the Immigration Scheme and (c) tell him he will receive a letter of welcome and to be sure to follow it up.

"They tell us New Zealanders are noted for their hospitality and friendliness to the stranger from 'Home' who has come to settle here. We are always ready to help them become good 'Kiwis', that is to become absorbed into a new environment. New Zealand is a young country and very proud of

what has been done in little more than one hundred years. Great highways have replaced the bullock tracks, farm lands the virgin bush of a short time ago. Great tracts of land are still being brought under cultivation, while there is rapid expansion in both town and countryside. In fact there is ample room for anyone you like to send us to this new land of about two million people, within an area about the size of the United Kingdom. Jobs in plenty and wages excessively high by English standards. Opportunity abounds for any who are not afraid of work, and who will remember just what we have said, that New Zealand is still a pioneer country."

### MIGRANT JOB

"At the beginning of 1956, Toc H, Sauerstown (Bulawayo)—a new group consisting of some eight men—were looking for a job to tackle. In the course of their searchings, it was found that many women with young children were travelling to the Rhodesias to join their husbands already working in the Federation. Most of them were destined for places other than Bulawayo but that city, or rather its railway station, was their first glimpse of the Rhodesian way of life. After a two weeks' voyage from England to the Cape and then two-and-a-half days on a train from Capetown, they usually arrived in Bulawayo feeling pretty well 'all-in'.

"The Sauerstown Group decided to visit the station on Saturday evenings when the Capetown train was due in order to see if they could be of assistance to these kind of travellers. Needless to say, there was plenty to do—questions to be asked, frantic mothers with fretful children to be helped thro' Customs and on to the next connecting train—occasionally medical help to be summoned, and so on and so forth. It was felt that here was a really worthwhile, friendly job of service. Then Toc H manpower became a problem, and after about six weeks the job fell away, much to the disappointment of certain members of the group.

"However the work was not in vain for about a month later, a meeting was called by the Deputy Mayor of Bulawayo for all voluntary organisations and patriotic societies. At this meeting the 1820 Memorial Settlers' Association representative in Bulawayo asked for assistance from these societies in meeting and settling immigrants in that city. A committee was formed to thrash out details and on election both Chairman and Secretary of the new 'Welcoming Hand' Committee.



as it became popularly called, were Toc H men. Rotas were drawn up involving three members from each of two organisations to be on duty at the station each Saturday evening to welcome new settlers, answer their queries, to arrange accommodation in Bulawayo where required and so on.

"On one evening Toc H men and women form a 'duty' team, so we are doing our share. Regular monthly meetings are held to discuss improvements and amendments to the scheme and reports are made by the various representatives on their duty nights.

"Much interest has been shown by Government departments in this work and high praise has been expressed in the same circles for the success of the scheme.

"The scheme has been in operation for almost a year now, and the original keenness and enthusiasm for a useful job being done is still evident amongst the people taking part—both Toc H'ers and non Toc H'ers."

D.C.

## FAMILY PURSE

Income from Members and Branches during the first half-year was up by £2,236, which included a considerable increase in deed of covenant income. The increase was widespread throughout England which is an indication that the work of Hon. Area Treasurers is bearing fruit.

Expenditure totalled	...	...	...	...	£32,111
Income from Members, Branches, Toc H					
Builders and investments totalled	...	...	...	...	£19,521
The difference between these two figures is	...	...	...	...	<u>£12,590</u>

For this first half-year, income from members has averaged 5½d. per week, so that it now needs an average of 6½d. per week for the second half year to achieve the target of 1s.

Time presses; October 31 is the end of the financial year. Please take action now.

*Overleaf is a letter received by an Area Treasurer which might be used as a model by Branch Treasurers. Short, sweet, and to the point!*

"I have much pleasure in enclosing cheque for £20 as a further instalment of our contribution to the Family Purse. At the beginning of October, I hope to send a further £12, which will bring our contribution for the year up to £52. With a membership of twenty, that will average one shilling per week per member."

### TOC H Headquarters and Areas.

Comparison of Income contributed by Members and Branches during the half-years ended April 30, 1956 and 1957.

	1956	1957
	£	£
Beds and Herts ... ..	222	279
East Anglia ... ..	282	331
Ireland ... ..	40	6
Kent ... ..	378	517
Lakes ... ..	78	126
Lincs ... ..	118	150
East London ... ..	203	250
North London ... ..	208	290
South London ... ..	291	282
South East London ... ..	135	247
West London ... ..	297	400
Manchester ... ..	409	448
Marches ... ..	52	16
East Midlands ... ..	536	754
West Midlands ... ..	314	370
Northern ... ..	242	611
North Western ... ..	132	182
Notts & Derby ... ..	257	310
O.T.V. ... ..	111	158
Scotland ... ..	233	203
Southern ... ..	325	375
South Western ... ..	609	603
Surrey ... ..	88	139
Sussex ... ..	190	256
Wales ... ..	262	426
Western ... ..	373	557
East Yorks ... ..	52	179
West Yorks ... ..	305	304
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6,742	8,769
Headquarters, etc. ... ..	767	976
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£7,509	£9,745
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Average per member ... ..	8/10d.	11/2d.

The special appeal made by two members of the Central Executive has so far produced seven deeds of covenant, giving a total income of £427 12 11d. in the current year. The total increase in income from all deeds (including tax) during the year to 5.4.'57 is £1,600.



# FROM ALL PARTS DIRECT from AREAS



**LINCOLNSHIRE**—Horncastle, at a recent Fête in Dr and Mrs J. H. Sanderson's garden, raised £92 for the Toc H Development Fund. The main feature was a dog show and entrants were many and varied. Dancing Displays and a Concert were much appreciated. Well done Horncastle! **Lincoln** gave invaluable help in providing cars and drivers to assist in the conveyance of a hundred members and friends of the Lincoln & District Group of the Infantile Paralysis Fellowship to attend a Garden Party at the home of Major and Mrs P. B. Walker. **Woodhall Spa** Branch gave forty elderly and infirm residents an enjoyable outing to Skegness with lunch and tea. If the Branch can expand its membership it is confident of its ability to find new avenues for service. **Stamford** Branch entertained the old people to tea in Drayton House gardens (by permission of Dr and Mrs Royce). A thunderstorm after tea drove them indoors for games and competitions. **Coningsby** Branch met at the farm of Ted and Mrs Scholey, gaining a little insight into the ways of farm life and enjoying its generous hospitality. New Area Chairman: Clem Crummy, for twenty-two years a member of **Grimsby** Branch and having held most offices in Toc H, has been elected Area Chairman and Area Correspondent as successor to the late Col. Kennington. Address: 176 Sutcliffe Avenue, Grimsby. **BOB BOLTON.**

**N. LONDON**—After a lapse of several years a new Team has been formed in **Brent** District. At present there are only three Branches, but it is hoped to extend before long. **Hendon**, who have just been given Branch status, have had a talk on the prejudices of colour, religion and race by Rabbi I. Livingston, which provoked a lively discussion. The P.R.O. of **Mill Hill** has been active lately and one result is that a recent issue of the local paper contains no fewer than five news paragraphs about Toc H—one of considerable length. The Branch's annual garden party raised nearly £450 for the operation of their Film Unit. By now members are experts on running Celebrity Concerts and the organiser would be glad to advise other Branches who would like to investigate this excellent means of publicity and money-raising. He is Wilfred Ransom, 27 Newcombe Park, London, N.W.7. The Area Executive has produced a printed "Job List" giving details of the services performed by Toc H in North London, which it is hoped will be useful for publicity and extension purposes. **Kentish Town** held a dance at the St. Pancras Town Hall in aid of St. Pancras old age pensioners' summer holidays. **Whetstone & Finchley** (assisted by the Women's Branch and the Joint Unit) have launched the first evening club for elderly people in Finchley. At the first meeting sixty would-be members attended. **Edmonton** were the hosts at a tea party and concert given to two hundred old people (including patients on stretchers and in wheelchairs) at the Central Hall. **MAYNE ELSON.**

**MANCHESTER**—Odd Rode & Scholar Green have revived a Boys' Club in their village which is providing a useful method of recruiting. The **Toc H Manchester Rugby Club** has completed three seasons since its inception, the last probably being the best. On many Saturdays, five teams were fielded. Sydney Swain has paid his third visit to the Area and has been most successful in contacting ex-members and enrolling them as Builders. Derek Carter, of Southern Rhodesia, formerly of **Salford Branch**, has been spending his leave in the Area and finding time to see something of **Toc H**.  
JACK SHAW.



Members of **Penarth Branch** recently assisted a **Children's Home** by felling four dangerous trees which they afterwards chopped into logs for distribution to old people in the town

**EAST ANGLIA**—Over 200 members from **Norfolk** and **West Suffolk Branches** attended a **Men's Service** at **Wymondham Abbey Church**, held in connection with the Abbey's 250th festival year, at which **Tubby** gave the address and the **Bishop of Thetford** (Rt. Rev. M. P. G. Leonard) took part. The **Ipswich District Hospitals Film Unit** hope to obtain a small portable projector so that the service can be extended to people confined to their homes. Through the initiative of two members, who are also local Councillors, steps are to be taken in **Clacton-on-Sea** to set up an association for providing homes for the aged. **Bury St. Edmunds Branch** overcame the recent petrol restrictions by using a horse and cart to collect rummage for a jumble sale. Members of **Waveney District** team held an exploratory meeting at **Ditchingham**, near **Bungay**. This and subsequent meetings have resulted in a lusty young group being formed. **Lowestoft Branch** helped in the arrangements for four hundred deaf and dumb people to attend an open-air Service in a local park. **Hoveton & Wroxham Branch** invited a number of members from nearby Branches to join them for what seems to have become the much looked forward to annual evening tour of the **Broads**. Many Branches in the Area are taking an increasing interest in the work for Spastics. **Sprowston** and **North Walsham Branches** are specially active in this respect and have done much to stir up local interest in the work.

REG. SMITH.



**E. LONDON**—Barking members regularly look after the gardens of the local alms house, and being very short of plants, appealed in the local press for cuttings, roots and spare plants. **Barkingside** are administering Torch Industries, an organisation for Home Crafts and employment for the needy and disabled. Through this scheme friendly contact with the outside world is maintained, and the workers receive a financial reward. **Southchurch** held a jumble sale and over £40 was raised in an hour. **Priory District** let their hair down at Greig Hall, Becontree, where a "Grand Rogerum" party was held. A temperature of 90 degrees did not deter 120 members and guests from having an enjoyable time. There are rumours of extension at **Laindon**. Members of various Branches had the privilege of helping Tubby at a Guest-night attended by members of the American Bar Association in July.

MAYNE ELSON.



The village war memorial being cleaned by Seal Branch members

**KENT**—Combined visits and outings by Branches during the summer months have proved very popular. **Sittingbourne** and **Halfway (Minster)** joined forces to 'invade' Warden Manor in Sheppey. Welcomed by Vic Martin, the party were later entertained to a nautical sketch on the lawn. Garden fêtes in many places have been a great success in (generally) good weather. **Deal**, **Hawkhurst**, **Ashford**, **Maidstone** and **Sevenoaks** have been outstanding events. **Tonbridge** gave the patients from Capel Hospital a grand coach trip to Eastbourne. The old people had a thoroughly enjoyable time. A lively evening was held in **Chatham** when the local Branch met three other Men's Societies to debate the motion: "That modern education has developed into milk, meals and mucking about".

CYRIL CATTELL.

**NOTTS. & DERBY**.—**Staveley** Branch are negotiating with County Education Authorities to provide English classes for a group of Somalis who work locally. Branch meetings with men of mixed colour become quite an adventure. Much help has been given by Toc H to the Belra Exhibition recently in **Nottingham** and **Mansfield**. **Ashfield** District are planning a family outing at the end of September, linking with members of **York** Branch. Old boys of the **Derby** Boys' Camp at Osmaston Manor, now in its thirty-third year, have this year helped at the Camp as 'uncles'.

LES WHEATLEY.

**SUSSEX**—"Toc H The World Round" appeared in very large letters over the decorated float entered in the local carnival by **Eastbourne**. It was a most impressive entry. Patients from Downside Hospital, 'adopted' by the Branch, were delighted to be asked to make artificial flowers for the float. Good wishes to Jack Richardson of **Eastbourne** who has just retired from business in the town, and to Ernest Brockway, a Sussex General Member retiring in October. **Hove & Portslade** are kept busy with their cripples club and also much service at the Foredown Hospital. Window displays in many towns in connection with the B.B.C. Appeal included a number of very original ideas.

CYRIL CATTELL.

**SOUTH WESTERN**—Congratulations to **Port Isaac** Branch, who, in conjunction with Bodmin Rotary Club, have raised the funds to erect a new Physiotherapy Building at Bodmin Hospital. After a great deal of sustained effort the new building has been completed and was opened on July 30. A great job—well done!

**South Somerset** District have held their Annual Skittles Tournament for the Tommy Thompson Cup, the trophy being carried off by **Sherborne** Branch, the baby of the District. The same District have also held their annual Camp at South Petherton, an event which was quite up to its usual standard. **Paignton** and **Dartmouth** Branches have joined forces to take the children from the County Home at Paignton on an outing, an event enjoyed equally by the children and the members! **Hayle** have at long last acquired a home of their own and look forward to being able to entertain their friends of the **West Cornwall** District in true Toc H style.

GILBERT FRANCIS.



A halt during the Paignton and Dartmouth combined outing

**SURREY**—The Combined Charities Fête which took place at Swail House, Epsom, in June, was a great success, and as Toc H is one of the participating Charities it is expected that the Family Purse will benefit very well. The **Epsom, Ewell & Stoneleigh, Tolworth** and **Ashted** Branches assisted by selling a large number of programmes and running sideshows. The Area Executive Meeting to be held on September 14 and 15 will take place at Farnham Castle, when we shall be pleased to have the company of Padre John Jones.

TOM HARRISON.

**WEST MIDLANDS**—Saturday, June 29, was a red-letter day for **Rugby** Branch when by arrangement with Howard Cooksey they entertained thirty-three students from the Malayan Teachers' College, with a tour of Rugby School, concluding with a real tea-party at their H.Q.

BOB PURDY.

**WESTERN**—Congratulations to Albert Savery, a member of **Portishead** Branch, on being awarded the M.B.E. in the Birthday Honours, for his work in the Oji River Leper Colony, and to Captain John England, M.C., on again enrolling the Mayor of Bath—the twelfth Mayor to become a Toc H Builder. Barkis was Guest Speaker at two June Guest-nights, one at **Portishead** and the other on the occasion of **Stroud** Branch's Twenty-first Birthday. Len Lowe, a member of **Winterbourne** Branch, left for Canada recently and is looking forward to meeting two other Bristol members now settled there. **Cheltenham** Branch once again had a fine day for their Summer Fayre. Our best wishes go to Padre Lionel W. Besley of **Malmesbury** Branch who was ordained Priest at Trinity, and is working in the parish which he served for so long as Lay Reader. **Sherston** Branch helped in accommodating and entertaining thirty Swedish Scouts who came for the Jamboree. **Mark XVI** and **Swindon** District wish Bill Dulborough, Hon. Warden of the Mark, the best of luck in his new sphere of life in Reading and have at the same time, welcomed John Deacon as Mark Warden. **Somerton** Branch made nearly £10 for the Family Purse by running a "Skittles Week" with the aid of a portable alley in the market place.

FRED BROOKER.

**NORTHERN**—Our best wishes to Eric Wiseman on his appointment as Alderman of the Stockton-on-Tees Town Council, and Herbert C. Atkinson as Mayor of the same town. Eric is Branch Secretary and Herbert a former member of **Stockton** Branch. Good wishes also to 'Jock' Burns, a member of **Saltburn-by-Sea** Branch on his re-election to the local Council and to Tom Hill, **Houghton-le-Spring** Branch on his retirement from 'active work' although he is busier than ever. **North Ormesby** Branch have gained new friends by putting 'Operation Octopus' into practice. **Ryton-on-Tyne** members, in order to strengthen their ranks, are doing a spot of door-knocking. **Durham City** Branch have now acquired a home of their own at 14 Chapel Passage, Old Elvet, Durham. **Newbiggin-by-Sea** Branch held an attractive Children's Arts and Crafts Exhibition. **Teesside** District chose Ormesby Hall as the venue for a training weekend to gather in fellowship and gain knowledge of Toc H. **Wearside** District held a Garden Fete in aid of the Family Purse in Penshaw Manor grounds. The days of village fairs are still with us and **Hutton Rudby** Branch held one in June. Welcome to new groups at **Easington Lane** and **Mardon Estate**. Contact names for Easington to Jack Adey, 34 Meadow Street, East Rainton, Co. Durham, and for Mardon to Bill Shields, 2 Duke Street, Whitley Bay. **Gateshead** Branch are meeting again and planning for a real start this month. Names to Harold ('Buddy') Wilson, 248 Alexandra Road, Gateshead, 8. Plans are in hand by **Tyneside** District to break new ground. Extension seeds are being planted for autumn, i.e., September, when green shoots should emerge at **Peterlee**, **Marske**, **Pegswood**, **Woodhouse Estate**, and we hope other places. **Houghton-le-Spring** Branch, with the help of the District, have pioneered and started a League of Friends for Ryhope General Hospital. **Catterick Camp** Branch now meet at 'The Surgery', The Shops, Walkerville, on Mondays as usual. **North Shields** Branch held their outing for the old folk to Newbiggin-by-Sea. This was a joint effort with the men's and women's Branches together with **Newbiggin**.

CHARLES YOUNG.

**W. LONDON**—The group at **Fulham** is making good progress and members are hoping to assist in the construction of a Scout Hut. **Ruislip** have held their annual outing for blind and handicapped folk with over a hundred guests at Manor Farm. After tea, served in the orchard, the company were entertained by St. Paul's Church Skiffle Group, the Martin Baker Players and other artists. In conjunction with **South Ruislip** it is planned to set up a handicraft group to make articles for a forthcoming sale of work. **Harrow** are holding a series of whist drives in aid of their "Holidays for Children Fund", a scheme which has continued for nearly nine years. Each year a number of children from the district have been sent away for a week. **Putney** held their annual garden party at Mark XX, but were handicapped by a wet afternoon for the second year running. Other garden parties included that held by **Putney Park** in the grounds of St. Margaret's Hall, a home for old people, and their report is that the weather was too hot—nothing seems right around Putney just now! Our best wishes and prayers go with Bob Simmons, appointed to **Singapore** to take over Talbot House there. Bob will be much missed from the Area Executive as well as from his Branch. **Heston** maintained a stall throughout the afternoon and evening at Heston Carnival. They made a good profit for the Carnival, some of which will be returned to them for the Family Purse. **Wembley & Preston** celebrated their twenty-first anniversary by a Guest-night at which greetings from old friends were heard on a tape-recorder. A splendid talk by 'Barkis' pointed the way for the future, and to round off the evening the **Mill Hill** Toc H Film Unit showed two films.

MAYNE ELSON.

**S. & S.E. LONDON**—Friends of Lee Branch were entertained at a party at the Congregational Church Hall, where they normally meet. Guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Lewisham and representatives of the Red Cross, St. John's Ambulance, Multiple Sclerosis Society, W.V.S. and Scouts. The event presented the Branch with an opportunity of expressing appreciation to local voluntary organisations and individuals who had co-operated with Toc H in a number of activities. **Camberwell** organised a film show and tea for some fifty old and disabled people. The Branch wheel chairs were used to bring some of the guests. The evening ended with some uproarious comedy scenes from the old Charlie Chaplin silent films. **Coney Hall** have laid an asphalt path from the road to the entrance of the local Assembly Hall, and paid for the entire cost of this work, about £50. **Thameside** District held a Garden Fete in June in the grounds of Huggens College. Northfleet: £76 was raised, half the proceeds being devoted to the amenities of the College, the other half to Toc H funds. **Sidecup** have been assisting with the "Stamp out T.B." campaign, and have had a very encouraging response to their appeal for books for the hospitals. **Bromley** District held its rededication service on June 29 at the St. George's Memorial Chapel, R.A.F. Station, Biggin Hill. Members of **Streatham** Branch have entertained a group of deaf and dumb people and also continue to take an active interest in the patients of the British Home and Hospital for Incurables, Streatham. **Old Coulsdon** are starting a new series of talks on "Other Peoples" on September 25, when Mr Paul Reed, Director of Information Services, British Council, will be speaking on work overseas.

SAM EVANS.



**EAST MIDLANDS**—The summer season has provided many opportunities and members have organised and helped in all sorts of ways with outdoor activities. **Hathern** manned the gates when Lord Crawshaw opened his gardens for the Nursing Association, **Measham** took their pensioners to Newstead Abbey while **Kings Cliffe** entertained their old folk in a delightful local garden. **Raunds** were out with their barrel organ on United Charities Day, and many old friendships were renewed in the Stockmen's Tent run by **Leicester South District** at the Leicestershire Show. The **Anstey** old folks outing needed ninety cars and 350 sat down to tea at Stanford Hall. During the bus strike this Branch also organised a volunteer car service for those needing to go to hospital and all calls were answered. **Welland** and **Rockingham Forest** Districts had an evening together and after an hour in the fifteenth century atmosphere of Kirkby Hall took a stride into the twentieth century by a visit to the 20-ton digger at Corby Steel works. **Swadlincote** have had their annual exhibition of Arts and Crafts which included a display of un-natural history. **Market Harborough** had Bob Purdy with them for their thirty-first birthday.

COLIN STEVENSON.



*Weston Mercury*

Old folk entertained by Uphill Branch (Weston-Super-Mare) at their sixth annual tea and social

**BEDS. & HERTS.**—The Secretary of a group of hospitals spoke on voluntary services when sixty men from nine Branches in **Bedford, Luton** and **North Bucks** Districts met for a get-together, with **Dunstable** as hosts. The balloons went up at Hatfield House Youth Festival when **Harpenden, Bushey, Welwyn Garden City, Park Street** and **Luton** expended more gas than usual. **Bedford, Sandy** and **Biggleswade** made Tower Hill a rendezvous for themselves and a party from the **Medway**, who joined them at Evensong at All Hallows. **Stevenage, Dunstable, Welwyn Garden City** and **Royston** have arranged teas for parties of old or blind people taken for outings by **Harpenden, St. Albans, Hoddesdon** and **Saffron Walden**. **Biggleswade** helped with a fête at the Cheshire Home at Ampthill whilst **Stevenage** and **Lemsford & Ayot** have also helped charity fêtes. When the blind clubs of Hertfordshire held a Rally it came to light that nine **Toc H** Branches were playing an active part in their normal club life.

FRANK R. FIGG.

# AIDS TO DISCUSSION

by BOB KNIGHT

Southern Area Padre

ON THE BRANCH "Family Night" something needs to be arranged which will put the members through their paces. A quiz, questions out of a hat, unusual jobs, embarrassing moments have all served their purpose. On such a night I've seen the most reserved fellow suddenly come into his own with a sense of humour that surprised all of us, even the chap himself.

I haven't yet met the Branch that has used a book as the basis of a few discussions on Family Nights. (Some Branch in Southern Area will write now and tell me they have done it for years.) The book must be small if everyone is going to read it, yet with enough meat in it to argue about. I have just come across a very suitable one for the purpose. *Popular Fallacies about the Christian Faith* is by Donald Soper, the well-known Minister of Kingsway Hall, London.

Dr Soper has compressed what he wants to say into seven chapters of about fifteen pages each, and he is an example to all of us who try to think fairly. What is involved in the demand to "keep politics out of the pulpit", or to "practise what you preach"? How serious is the situation in which a young salesman is required to tell lies about his firm's goods? These and similar questions Dr Soper answers carefully, providing the material for a Branch which is not able to get an expert in to open up the argument.

## *Right perspective*

So many of these problems of daily life can be seen in their right perspective only by going back to fundamental issues. Thus in his first section Soper tackles the agnostic position that we cannot know God, and follows out the argument to the thorny problem of God's omnipotence over against the suffering and evil in the world. The clue Soper gives here concerns what we mean by "omnipotence" when it is used in conjunction with "our Heavenly Father".

The book is one of a new series under the title "Wyvern Books". The aim of the series is to show that the power station of the Christian religion is the life of Christ. To know what He was like, what He said and the circumstances in which He spoke, will result in a closer conformity of your

life with His. This is natural enough. To some degree it is true of anyone we encounter. To say so-and-so made an impression on me is to admit that one thing or another about him has influenced me. And of course the opposite must be true. The lack of much effective Christianity around you or in your personal experience may be due largely to ignorance about Christ.

Two other books in the series are Leslie Weatherhead's *Jesus and Ourselves*, which was first published in 1930, and J. B. Phillips' *Plain Christianity*. The ten chapters in this were first given as radio talks.

If you have finished your autumn programme and are not as satisfied with it as you hoped to be, I suggest you insert three or four discussions on the theme, "Thinking out a faith to live with", and invest in a few copies of one of the "Wyvern Books". Ask three chaps to read a chapter to set the Branch off on a discussion. And when you have prepared the Branch, get the Padre to give you a session, in which the members can join. In this business of faith, a sure way of getting some fresh insight is the discipline of thinking aloud with a few trusted friends.

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# SENIOR SERVICE



## Satisfy

The Outstanding  
Cigarette  
of the Day

WELL MADE • WELL PACKED



# OPEN HUSTINGS

*The Editor welcomes letters on all matters concerning Toc H. For reasons of space the right is reserved to shorten letters submitted, and every effort is made to print a representative selection from those received.*

## **Bishop Vernon-Smith**

**M**AY I ask for a space to pay a grateful tribute to Bishop Guy Vernon-Smith a Vice President of Toc H who died in June?

In the autumn of 1941 I arrived in Leicester to take up duty as E. Midlands Area Secretary. The first person to invite me into his home was the Bishop. The morning after enjoying his hospitality a letter was on my breakfast table confirming the wise counsel and sympathetic understanding given to me the previous evening. I was soon to find out that not only had I a real Father in God and friend but an extremely keen fellow member. During the dark years of war he celebrated each month in the Chapel of Mark XI; frequently dropped in to see us in the lounge on a weekday evening, and all over his diocese encouraged his clergy and others to support Toc H. He retired in 1953 and thereafter lived in the lovely close at Salisbury, where he became a much loved friend to all who entered his beautiful home. Toc H in the Southern Area has cause to be grateful to the Bishop for many kindnesses. He visited nearby Branches, preached at festivals, and perhaps more important still led our first Area 'quiet afternoon' in the Chapel of Bishop Wordsworth School. The seventy-five members present will long remember

the deep and quiet inspiration of that occasion.

Many, and especially the clergy, can tell of his generous thoughtfulness in times of difficulty and trouble. Indeed, I have experienced this myself. We remember a great friend, fellow member and bishop with real thanksgiving and gratitude.

GREENO.

*Hiltingbury Cottage,  
Chandlers Ford, Hants.*

## **Football Commentaries**

**I** AM wondering whether you can make some mention in a forthcoming JOURNAL of football commentaries to hospitals, and our desire to consult any other Branches sponsoring this work. I am liaison secretary for six commentators—two of whom are members of our Branch, and by the generosity of the local club and assistance of Rediffusion Ltd. we have been sending a running commentary on every home football match of Wolverhampton Wanderers (The Wolves) from the Molyneux Ground, Wolverhampton. These commentaries are conveyed by G.P.O. landline to five local hospitals, and the service seems to have been greatly appreciated. We have now completed our second season.

When the Wolves were last playing Swansea, the commentary was also relayed to Swansea by arrangement with the commen-



tators there, and it led us to think that if we all had some knowledge of just how many bodies there are doing this job in various parts of the country, it would be of great assistance to all in arranging inter-regional link-ups.

W. N. BROWN.

50 Birches Road,  
Codsall, Staffs.

### 'This Freedom'

YOUR Supplement *Human Factors in Industry* enthralled me, because it was that same approach I had been searching for as an explanation of the revolutionary state of affairs prevailing nowadays—but the statement "and given free insurance and health service" sticks in my gills!

Nothing is free nowadays, not even fresh air. It costs us a great deal to get out of polluted industrial areas to get a sniff of real fresh air, and even then we have to trespass, for it is all privately owned.

"Free" medical service—how often is that stupid phrase to be repeated?—and repeated only to be the most palpable mis-statement of modern times.

G. H. GRIFFITHS.

Toc H Wednesday Lunch Club,  
Drury Lane, W.C.2.

### House Offer

WE HAVE a dolls house, 33"×24"×24" high complete with furniture which has been a useful money raiser for Toc H and other causes in this district. Since most of the people in this area have now seen it we offer it to any other Branch that could take advantage of this very well made and attractive dolls house.

JOE NICHOLLS.

23 Headley Avenue,  
Wallington, Surrey.

OPEN HUSTINGS

### Out of the dark

DEAF and blind! Silent darkness! Could there be a worse affliction? What can we do to help when conversation and music are lost on them, and such amusements as stage shows and T.V.?

The answer in one word is "companionship". This can be given in two ways. First, to master the Deaf-Blind hand manual (somewhat similar to the Deaf and Dumb language) and "adopt" one of these folk by visiting him, inviting him to your home or taking him for walks. Second by organising annual parties for all the local "D-B" in your area—give them tea and presents and leave them to natter among themselves. If you are interested, write to Mr R. Sculthorpe, M.B.E., General Sec., National Deaf-Blind Helpers' League, Market Chambers, Market St., Peterborough. He will gladly send you copies of the D. B. Manual and any other advice you require.

ARTHUR RUSSELL.

Dartford Branch.

### Thanks

RECENTLY a couple of the patients here, a lady and gentleman, spent a fortnight at a Nursing Home at Birchington, and received every help as regards going out in their invalid chairs, and also attended two Toc H meetings at Birchington Branch.

The Branch have done trojan service to others, previous patients from here and elsewhere, they have been more than kind in all ways, and on behalf of R.H.H.I. Branch I wish to offer our warm appreciation and grateful thanks.

BILL TAVENDER,  
Hon. Secretary.

R.H.H.I.,  
West Hill, Putney, S.W.15.

## Overseas Contacts

UNLESS you have lived overseas, it is difficult to realise what "Home" means! No doubt, many, who served abroad for some time during the wars, did come to realise what "letters from Home" meant to them. Before the First World War, and between the wars too, the English Mail was one of the high-lights of the week and its arrival at every town throughout India was an eagerly awaited event.

Branches of Toc H Overseas are intensely interested too in news from Home. Some of the more fortunate get it. Many never have any. Our little Branch maintains two such links. One with the Kirkee Branch in Poona, which I helped to found before I left India in 1939, and which is still going strong and doing good

work. The other is the Auckland Branch of New Zealand, who had the happy idea of sending a Christmas Card to each of the members of Toc H who were prisoners-of-war, during the last war. Again the connection has been maintained.

It is suggested that many Branches may like to become so linked with others Overseas. They may not have considered it, or may not know how to begin. No doubt the Overseas Secretary could easily find out, and send a selection to all interested! We find that the Toc H Stamp Appeal also benefits from such contacts, who willingly send envelopes full of their own country's used stamps to be used in this good cause.

B. H. BONHAM-CARTER.

*Hminster, Somerset.*

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